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Agenda item 161

FINANCING OF THE UNITED NATIONS MISSION IN THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Djamel MOKTEFI (Algeria)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 83rd plenary meeting, on 27 April 1998, the General Assembly decided, on the proposal of the Secretary-General (A/52/235), to include in the agenda of its fifty-second session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. The Fifth Committee considered the item at its 66th, 68th and resumed 68th meetings, on 21 and 29 May and 26 June 1998. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/52/SR.66, 68 and 68/Add.1).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the report of the Secretary-General (A/52/895) and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/52/911).

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTION A/C.5/52/L.51

4. At the 68th meeting, on 29 May, the representative of Tunisia and coordinator of the informal consultations on item 161, on behalf of the Chairman, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic" (A/C.5/52/L.51) and orally revised it as follows:

(a) In operative paragraph 5, the words "operational and substantive" were deleted before the word "requirements";

(b) In operative paragraph 10, the words "and the amount of _____ dollars for the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi" were deleted after the words "support account for peacekeeping operations".

5. At its 68th meeting, on 29 May and 26 June, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/52/L.51, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 7).

6. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements in explanation of position were made by the representatives of Cameroon and Uganda (see A/C.5/52/SR.68).

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

7. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Financing of the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

Bearing in mind Security Council resolution 1159 (1998) of 27 March 1998, by which the Council established the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic for an initial period of three months, until 15 July 1998, and authorized the Secretary-General to take the measures necessary to ensure that the Mission was fully deployed by 15 April 1998,

Recognizing that the costs of the Mission are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recognizing also that, in order to meet the expenditures caused by the Mission, a different procedure is required from that applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of the United Nations,

Taking into account the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such an operation,

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[1] A/52/895.

[2] A/52/911.

Bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the States permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, in the financing of such operations,

Noting with appreciation the voluntary contributions in kind that have so far been made to the Mission,

Noting also that no voluntary contributions have so far been made to the Trust Fund for the support of the Mission's activities,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Mission with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under Security Council resolution 1159 (1998),

1. Urges all Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic in full and on time;

2. Endorses the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[2]

3. Takes note of the information provided in paragraph 3 of the report of the Secretary-General[1] and in paragraph 7 of the report of the Advisory Committee;[2]

4. Requests the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Mission is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

5. Also requests the Secretary-General, in order to reduce the cost of employing General Service staff, to employ locally recruited staff for the Mission against General Service posts, commensurate with the requirements of the Mission;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to report in his next financial performance report on the Mission on the implementation and efficiency of the system of providing allowances in lieu of rations to various contingents serving in the Mission;

7. Decides to appropriate the amount of 18,560,600 United States dollars gross (18,335,500 dollars net) for the establishment and operation of the Mission for the period from 27 March to 30 June 1998, inclusive of the amount of 12,844,900 dollars gross (12,469,900 dollars net) previously authorized by the Advisory Committee, and requests the Secretary-General to establish a special account for the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic;

8. Decides also, as an ad hoc arrangement, to apportion the amount of 18,560,600 dollars gross (18,335,500 dollars net) for the period from 27 March to 30 June 1998 among Member States, in accordance with the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of General Assembly resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolutions 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, 45/269 of 27 August 1991, 46/198 A of 20 December 1991, 47/218 A of 23 December 1992, 49/249 A of 20 July 1995, 49/249 B of

14 September 1995, 50/224 of 11 April 1996, 51/218 A, B and C of 18 December 1996 and 52/230 of 31 March 1998 and its decisions 48/472 A of 23 December 1993 and 50/451 B and 50/471 A of 23 December 1995, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the year 1998, as set out in its resolution 52/215 A of 22 December 1997;

9. Decides further that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 8 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 225,100 dollars approved for the Mission for the period from 27 March to 30 June 1998;

10. Decides to appropriate to the Special Account for the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic the amount of 29,105,850 dollars gross (28,369,350 dollars net) for the maintenance of the Mission for the period from 1 July to 30 November 1998, inclusive of the amount of 1,468,850 dollars for the support account for peacekeeping operations;

11. Decides also, as an ad hoc arrangement, to apportion among Member States the amount of 2,910,585 dollars gross (2,836,935 dollars net) for the period from 1 to 15 July 1998, in accordance with the scheme set out in the present resolution and taking into account the scale of assessments for the year 1998, as set out in its resolution 52/215 A;

12. Decides further that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X), there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 11 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 73,650 dollars approved for the Mission for the period from 1 to 15 July 1998;

13. Decides, as an ad hoc arrangement, to apportion among Member States the amount of 26,195,265 dollars gross (25,532,415 dollars net) for the period from 16 July to 30 November 1998 at a monthly rate of 5,821,170 dollars gross (5,673,870 dollars net), in accordance with the scheme set out in the present resolution and taking into account the scale of assessments for the year 1998, as set out in its resolution 52/215 A, subject to the decision of the Security Council to extend the mandate of the Mission beyond 15 July 1998;

14. Decides also that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X), there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 13 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 662,850 dollars approved for the Mission for the period from 16 July to 30 November 1998;

15. Invites voluntary contributions to the Mission in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

16. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-third session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic".